

Message Text

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67

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 ACDA-05 MC-01 /059 W
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R 131506Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY QUITO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3678

INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, EC, PE

SUBJ: AYACUCHO

1. IN THE FACE OF THE DECISION BY ECUADOREAN PRESIDENT RODRIGUEZ LARA NOT TO ATTEND THE AYACUCHO CEREMONIES BECAUSE OF ECUADOREAN/PERUVIAN DIFFERENCES OVER THE OUTSTANDING TERRITORIAL DISPUTE, THE ECUADOREAN PRESS HAS CONFINED ITSELF TO A GENERALLY POSITIVE PORTRAYAL OF THE NEWS FROM LIMA. BOTH EL COMERCIO AND EL TIEMPO (QUITO'S TWO LARGEST DAILIES) HAVE RUN FULL HEADLINES AND STORIES ABOUT THE AGREEMENT TO LIMIT AN ARMS RACE, AND HAVE DWELT HEAVILY ON THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF THE DECLARATIONS -- THE NEED TO FREE THE SIGNATORIES FROM ECONOMIC IMPERIALISM, THE TYRANNY OF TRANSNATIONAL RESOURCE-EXPLOITING COMPANIES, AND GIVE ULTIMATE DIGNITY TO THE LATIN AMERICAN POPULACE.

2. THE ECUADOREAN/PERUVIAN COMMUNIQUE SIGNED BETWEEN FOREIGN MINISTERS LUCIO PAREDES AND MIGUEL ANGEL DE LA
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FLOR WAS ABOUT AS BLAND A DOCUMENT AS COULD BE PRODUCED

AND STILL BE PUBLISHED WITH A STRAIGHT FACE: "THE MINISTERS... HAVE MET AND EXAMINED THE RELATIONS BETWEEN THEIR TWO COUNTRIES...AND APPROVED THEIR DYNAMISM. PROFOUNDLY INFLUENCED BY THE CONFRATERNAL SPIRIT BETWEEN THEM...THEY HAVE PLEDGED RENEWED EFFORTS, IN NEWER AND MORE ACTIVE FORMS, TO OVERCOME THE OBSTACLES WHICH CREATE DIFFICULTIES FOR THE INCREASING AND CONSTRUCTIVE CONDUCT OF RELATIONS BETWEEN THEIR TWO COUNTRIES."

3. IN WHAT MAY BE A TRUER REFLECTION OF LOCAL SENTIMENT, EL COMERCIO PUBLISHED A FRONT PAGE PICTURE OF THE PERUVIAN PRESIDENT, IN GENERAL'S UNIFORM, IN CONVERSATION WITH THE PRESIDENT OF THE ECUADOREAN SUPREME COURT (HEAD OF THE ECUADOREAN DELEGATION) IN DARK SUIT. WHETHER BY ACCIDENT OR DESIGN, EL TIEMPO CARRIED A COLUMN BY PRIMINENT QUITO ATTORNEY CESAR DAVILA TORRES ON ITS EDITORIAL PAGE, WHICH DREW ATTENTION TO THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN ECUADOR'S MILITARY GOVERNMENT, AND THAT OF PERU, WINDING UP: "COMPARE THE MAGISTRACY OF A THOUGHTFUL AND INTELLIGENT LEADER, WHO IS HEAD AND SHOULDERS ABOVE THE JEFES WHO TYRANNIZE OTHER SOUTH AMERICAN COUNTRIES. IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO COMPARE (OURS) WITH THEIRS. (OUR) NON-ATTENDANCE AT LIMA HAS SHOWN, IN CONSPICUOUS FORM, THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A PROGRESSIVE GOVERNMENT (SUCH AS OURS) AND VULGAR PERSONAL DICTATORSHIPS. THAT IS THE DIFFERENCE, AND IT IS ONE IN WHICH ALL ECUADOREANS CAN BE PROUD."

4. EL COMERCIO, EDITORIALY REVIEWING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE AYACUCHO MEETINGS, NOTED WITH SATISFACTION THE REVIEW OF RELATIONS BETWEEN THE ECUADOREAN AND PERUVIAN FOREIGN MINISTERS, BUT EXPRESSED ALARM AT THE INCREASING NUMBER OF REPORTS (INCLUDING SPECIFICALLY THE ONE IN AVIATION WEEK) REFERRING TO THE POSSIBILITY OF HOSTILITIES BETWEEN PERU AND CHILE. THE EDITORIAL SAID IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE TO IGNORE THE CONTINUING PURCHASES OF ARMS BY SOME OF THE LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES, SUCH AS PERU. IT THEN WENT ON TO SAY THAT THE PRINCIPLE DUTY OF "OUR COUNTRIES" IS THE CONTINUING POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC COOPERATION, "WHICH ALONE CAN ASSIST IN THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BETTERMENT OF CONDITIONS OF LIVING FOR OUR PEOPLES."

5. ALL OF THE ABOVE HAS BEEN JUXTAPOSED AGAINST THREE OTHER PROMINENT REPORTS. THE FIRST, CARRIED ON EL TIEMPO'S FRONT PAGE, WAS ON SEN. GAYLORD NELSON'S STATEMENT THAT THE US WOULD BE SELLING \$400 MILLION WORTH OF ARMS AND WARPLANES TO LATIN AMERICA OVER THE NEXT SEVERAL YEARS. CURIOUSLY, SEN. NELSON WAS REPORTED TO HAVE SAID

THAT THE US WOULD BE SELLING 12 T-33S AND "OTHER
INFORMANTS REPORT THAT ECUADOR HAS BOUGHT F-5ES" --
THE TWO AIRCRAFT THAT THE GOE HAS DECIDED TO FOREGO
IN FAVOR OF THE A-37B PURCHASE FROM US.
THE SECOND WAS THE "AVIATION WEEK & SPACE TECHNOLOGY"
REPORT THAT PERU WAS PLANNING A MASSIVE ATTACK ON
CHILE WITHIN TWO YEARS, AND WAS BUILDING A LARGE
MILITARY ESTABLISHMENT FOR THAT PURPOSE. THE THIRD WAS
THE BRIEF REPORT THAT THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE HAD VOTED TO LIFT THE \$150
MILLION LIMIT ON ARMS SALES TO LATIN AMERICA.
HEMENWAY

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